

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An aligner to expose ~~any~~an exposure area to light, comprising:

a stage having a mount surface to hold an exposure substrate having a photosensitive film with a surface facing a hologram recording surface of a hologram mask;

a light-emitting device that emits an exposure beam having a specified width to expose the exposure area to light;

a douser having a width corresponding to at least the width of the exposure beam; and

a drive unit to prevent the exposure beam from reaching an area other than the exposure area by driving the douser to shut off part or all of the exposure beam; and

a range-finding optical system that adjusts a distance between the hologram recording surface and the photosensitive film surface.

2. (Original) The aligner according to claim 1, the douser having a width and a height equal to at least the width of the exposure beam.

3. (Original) The aligner according to claim 1, further comprising:
a plurality of dousers substantially perpendicular to the direction of emission of the exposure beam and driven separately along either of two intersecting directions; and
a drive unit to drive the dousers.

4. (Original) The aligner according to claim 1, further comprising:
four dousers substantially perpendicular to the direction of emission of the exposure beam and driven separately along either of two intersecting directions; and
a drive unit to drive the dousers.

5. (Original) The aligner according to claim 1, further comprising:
a douser capable of moving substantially perpendicular to the direction of emission of the exposure beam; and
a drive unit to drive the douser.
6. (Original) The aligner according to claim 1, the light-emitting device shifting the center of the exposure beam within an area of not exceeding a width corresponding to one-half of the width of the exposure beam from the exposure area.
7. (Original) The aligner according to claim 1, the drive unit moving the douser so that the exposure beam reaches only the exposure area when the distance between the center of the exposure beam and the boundary of the exposure area is equal to or less than one-half of the width of the exposure beam.
- 8-13. (Canceled)
14. (New) An aligner to expose an exposure area to light, comprising:
a stage having a mount surface to hold an exposure substrate having a photosensitive film with a thickness;
a light-emitting device that emits an exposure beam having a specified width to expose the exposure area to light;
a douser having a width corresponding to at least the width of the exposure beam;
a drive unit to prevent the exposure beam from reaching an area other than the exposure area by driving the douser to shut off part or all of the exposure beam; and
a film-thickness measuring optical system that measures the thickness of the photosensitive film.
15. (New) The aligner according to claim 14, the douser having a width and a height equal to at least the width of the exposure beam.

16. (New) The aligner according to claim 14, further comprising:
a plurality of doublers substantially perpendicular to the direction of emission of the exposure beam and driven separately along either of two intersecting directions; and
a drive unit to drive the doublers.
17. (New) The aligner according to claim 14, further comprising:
four doublers substantially perpendicular to the direction of emission of the exposure beam and driven separately along either of two intersecting directions; and
a drive unit to drive the doublers.
18. (New) The aligner according to claim 14, further comprising:
a douser capable of moving substantially perpendicular to the direction of emission of the exposure beam; and
a drive unit to drive the douser.
19. (New) The aligner according to claim 14, the light-emitting device shifting the center of the exposure beam within an area of not exceeding a width corresponding to one-half of the width of the exposure beam from the exposure area.
20. (New) The aligner according to claim 14, the drive unit moving the douser so that the exposure beam reaches only the exposure area when the distance between the center of the exposure beam and the boundary of the exposure area is equal to or less than one-half of the width of the exposure beam.